

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet replaces original Fig. 1. In the replacement sheet, the reference character "110b" has been amended to "110e".

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A replacement paragraph is submitted to correct an informality at page 1 of the specification.

In amended Fig. 1, reference character "110b" has been changed to "110e." This removes reference character "110b" from Fig. 1 and addresses the Office Action's objection to the drawings.

Claims 1-9 are pending.

Claim 1 is amended by adding the phrase "in a locking state" to provide an antecedent basis for the phrase "the locking state." Claim 1 is also amended by replacing "battery" with "at least one battery", and by deleting the phrase "required for the computer mouse." These amendments address the informalities and the Office Action's § 112 objections to claim 1.

Claims 4 and 5 are amended by deleting references to "an end". These changes address the Office Action's § 112 objections to the claims.

The rejection of claims 1-9 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,411,281 to Sasselli et al. is respectfully traversed. "To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim." MPEP § 2131. In the present case, Sasselli et al. fail to achieve this standard.

Claims 1-9 call for a computer mouse housing assembly comprising a base, a cover, and a housing adapted to be coupled to the base from the bottom of the housing so as to form a space in-between for receiving electronic components, the housing being formed with a battery compartment for receiving at least one battery as a power source to the computer mouse and comprising a locking portion. The cover comprises a front piece, an actuating piece, and a rear piece. The rear piece has a locking member for locking with the locking portion of the housing. The actuating piece is provided with an actuating member such that when the actuating piece is downwardly pushed by an external force, the actuating member is capable of releasing the locked state between the locking portion of the housing and the locking member of the rear piece. This detaches the rear piece from the housing and exposes a battery compartment.

In the embodiment shown in Fig. 2, the cover 12 of the embodiment comprises a front piece 120, an actuating piece 121 and a rear piece 122. As shown in an embodiment in Fig. 1, the primary locking portions 121b and 122b are located at the bottom of the actuating piece 121 and at the center of the rear piece 122, respectively.

In contrast, the cover 26 of Sasselli et al. is just a single component (Fig. 1). The primary locking portions 38 and 40 are located at rear bottom and under rear side of the cover, respectively. This is structurally different from the embodiment of the present invention shown in Fig. 2.

Sasselli et al. teach a mouse assembly having a top cover 26 and a lower housing 20. The cover and housing are attached together through a ledge 40 on the cover and a hook 38 associated with the lower housing (see Fig. 2 and 3.) A latch 28 is connected to the hook. According to the Office Action, ledge 40 is the equivalent of a rear piece called for in claims 1-9.

To remove the cover, Sasselli et al. teach at column 2, lines 53-67, that the latch 28 is pressed by a finger from underneath the mouse, causing the hook 38 to move and the ledge 40 to be released. Springs 30, 32 force the top cover to move backward.

Thus as taught by Sasselli et al., pressure on the lower housing, and in particular on the latch 28 associated with the lower housing, releases the locked state between the hook of the lower housing and the ledge of the top cover. This is an entirely different mode of action from that called for in claims 1-9 where pressure on the cover, and in particular the actuating piece, detaches the rear piece from the housing. The Sasselli et al. reference teaches a completely different mechanism and mode of action than those called for in the claims. Because Sasselli et al. fail to teach or suggest all claim elements, claims 1-9 are not anticipated.

Furthermore, Sasselli et al. fail to disclose the structure of the locking portion 110 described in various embodiments of the present invention. In these embodiments, the design of the locking portion 110 allows the rear piece 122 to be easily detached from the locking portion 110 so as to expose the battery compartment 110g, thereby making the battery replacement easy to operate (see Fig. 1). Therefore, the structure of the embodiments is not only obviously different from that of Sasselli et al.'s described device, but also has better efficacy than Sasselli et al.'s device. The present invention is also not obvious over other cited references.

Sasselli et al. do not teach or suggest all elements of claims 1-9. Accordingly, claims 1-9 are not anticipated.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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